Disposal of old foodgrains

†439. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation have been instructed to dispose off the foodgrains lying there for more than three years within the next two months;

(b) if not, by when the direction would be issued;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains lying with these two Corporations item-wise; and

(d) if these foodgrains could not be disposed off, the manner in which the same would be saved from rotting or getting spoiled and how the additional capacity for storage would be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Food Corporation of India has been instructed to dispose of the old stocks of foodgrains, three years or earlier, which also includes such stocks stored in the godowns of the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC).

(c) The stock positions of foodgrains, three years or earlier, as on Ist June, 2003, was as under:-

FCI	Rice	Wheat	Total
(also includes the stocks stored in the godowns of CWC)	3.63	4.47	8.10
State Agencies of Punjab and Haryana	—	30.39	30.39
TOTAL:	3.63	34.86	38.49

(d) Prophylactic and curative treatment is being given and the pest control measures taken to avoid deterioration in quality of the residual stocks. The FCI is presently utilizing 64% of the storage capacity available with it and creation of additional storage capacity is not required.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.